

The City
of

JANUARY 2007

A Quarterly
Publication

CITY OF NEWTON

P.O. Box 550
Newton, N.C. 28658

Newton

NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

A look back at 2006

To all of our citizens, neighbors, and visitors, the City Council and I wish you a most prosperous New Year and trust that you had a most joyful holiday season. I extend a heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers and City staff who worked so diligently to make the holiday festivities held in our City such a memorable occasion for us. Sometimes we lose sight of how much effort goes into preparing for or planning for a season that we love and cherish. Thanks to all.

The coming year holds so much promise and hope for our city. Your City Council is constantly working and planning to keep Newton moving forward and providing the quality of services that we all have come to expect. We are continuing to be as aggressive as we can in approaching economic development and recruitment. Projects such as the Target distribution center take many months to culture. We are constantly listening to, studying, and evaluating proposals that have a possibility of enhancing the economic environment of our community. I hope that



this coming fiscal year we will be able to tackle more paving of streets and sidewalk construction. For the last two years, some funds that would have normally been used for such projects were used to replace large culverts under several city streets. These culverts either washed out or were ready to collapse and created a situation that had to be dealt with. While not as visible to our citizens as street paving and sidewalk construction, these repairs were necessary in order to maintain the integrity of our road system. I hope that 2007 will see us complete another segment of our greenway system and continue to improve our parks and recreation areas. The use of our recreation facilities has become phenomenal—a testament to the quality of life afforded by your City.

Without forecasting too much ahead for the coming year, I want to take a moment to reflect upon where we have been this past year. The end of the year always causes me to sit back and see where I have been. My dad likes to tell me that you cannot tell where you are going, if you don't know where you have been. I agree. While I am not presumptuous enough to suggest that

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City Hall News

Mayor

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everything that went on in Newton last year was perfect, I will suggest that there were many good things that did occur last year. I would also suggest that in our hometown, the good far outweighed the bad. Let me give you a sampling of the highlights of "goings on" in and around your city in 2006.

- Target announced the location of a new 1.6 million square foot distribution center to be located off of NC Hwy. 10 West near U.S. 321, creating a \$100 million investment and 550 jobs initially.
- The City received \$1.4 million in Community Development Block Grants and Industrial Development Fund Grants to construct water and sewer improvements. NCDOT will be constructing improvements to NC Hwy. 10 as well as funding construction of an access road to the new Target facility.
- Flowers Foods opened in June, representing a \$40 million investment and 200 jobs being created in the former Harvest States building, which, until the Flowers opening, had never been occupied.
- The City received the 2006 Marvin Collins Planning Award for its Eastside Area Plan, representing the contributions of citizens affected by the plan, the Planning Commission, and the City Council, who ultimately adopted it. This was a career achievement for Glenn Pattishall and his staff, and I congratulate them for a job well done.
- The City completed repairs to the Newton Recreation Swimming Pool, adding a water-slide feature. The result of the repairs and improvements yielded an attendance increase from 1,240 in 2005 to 2,044 in 2006, and revenues increased from \$6,600 to \$10,870 in the same period further enhancing the recreational opportunities afforded to our citizens.
- The Jacob Fork Park Project is nearing completion with one element already completed, that being the

canoe launch. The launch was constructed with assistance from various companies who donated materials, including Robinson Builders, Martin Marietta, Smith Setzer & Sons, Catawba County Soil and Conservation District, and also with a financial contribution from the Newton-Conover Rotary Club. Volunteer assistance was provided by the Catawba County Soil and Conservation District, Catawba County Paddle Trails, Catawba Valley Heritage Alliance, and Carolina Land and Lakes. All contributed to the success of the canoe launch. Work is continuing on the two softball fields, and a concession/restroom facility which should be completed early in 2007.

- The Heritage Trail Greenway between West 7th Street and NC Hwy. 10 West began in 2006. The City has received a \$100,000 Enhancement Grant from NCDOT to construct a portion from Radio Station Road to NC Hwy. 10. Construction plans have been completed and are awaiting approval from NCDOT. Phase I between West 7th Street and 1st Street is complete, with the next leg to Radio Station Road currently under construction. The total project should be complete by summer of 2007. The City is working with the Catawba Valley Heritage Alliance on the project. Ultimately, the greenway project will extend to Southside Park.
- Phase I of the electric system upgrade is complete, converting the existing 4KV circuit to a 24KV circuit, improving power quality as well as dependability. This is part of an overall master plan that ultimately will convert the entire City to a 24KV circuitry and lay the foundation for future economic development and growth in the City.
- The Eastside Drive Culvert Replacement Project was completed, replacing a failing drainage system with a box culvert that will now allow the residents of the Eastside Drive area safe and dependable access to their property as well as accessibility for emergency and service vehicles.

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City Hall News

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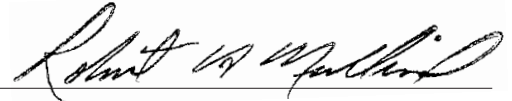
- The City completed a waterline project to connect with EnergyUnited and the Town of Taylorsville in April, which will allow the City to distribute 2 million gallons of water per day to EnergyUnited and the Town of Taylorsville. EnergyUnited purchased a capacity of 2 million gallons of water per day from Newton at a cost of \$3 million with an additional \$1.10 per 1,000 gallons used. The City used the \$3 million along with other funds to construct approximately 13 miles of 20-inch waterlines to connect with EnergyUnited, which on its own constructed over 12 miles of waterline. The interconnection creates a regional water system that could be utilized in times of future drought. Newton is now connected to EnergyUnited, which is connected to Alexander and Iredell counties. The water deal will be a benefit for all of the entities involved and will have a positive impact on many citizens for years to come. Additional water revenue to the City is projected between \$700,000 and \$1,000,000 annually.
- A new road has been completed that will connect North College Avenue with Keisler Road in Conover going through the old Broyhill Furniture factory property, currently owned by Moretz, Inc. and RP Holdings. The road will allow the former property to be used as a distribution center for Moretz, Inc. as well as providing access to new parcels for future

development to create jobs and tax base. The Keisler Road extension connects to the new NC Hwy. 16 Eastern Loop which should be completed by spring of 2007, thus opening this area up for development, job creation, and prosperity for the City.

As you can see, your City employees and City Council have had another very busy year. High expectations and achievement are what we have come to expect from our City. We will continue to strive to assure that your hometown is the best that it can be. Most importantly, please remember that all decisions are made with the ever-present realization and understanding that it is your tax dollars that we are using to accomplish this goal. I know that each and every one of you expects us to be prudent and reasonable with your money!

Thanks to each of you for all the support that you gave last year and will tender this year. It is that community effort that makes Newton such a wonderful place to live, to work, and to serve.

Our City staff, City Council, and I are here to serve you. If there are any needs, questions, or concerns, do not hesitate to call City Hall at 828-695-4300 or me at 828-464-7887 (work) or 828-466-0462 (home). Thank you and take care.



Newton Mayor Robert A. Mullinax

Seasonal leaf collection ends this month

There are only a couple more weeks left of "vacuum" leaf collection in the City of Newton. Workers will collect leaves in south Newton from January 2-5 and January 16-19, and in the north section from January 8-12 and January 22-26. If you still have leaves after seasonal collection ends, you may still bag them in clear bags for collection year-round on your normal garbage pick-up day.

From October 16 to January 26, residents can expect their loose leaves to be picked up at the curb with vacuum leaf collection trucks every other week. Equipment problems and a heavy leaf season recently caused some delays in collection routes, but work crews are now back on schedule.

Many cities only offer one or two leaf collections a year.

Even with seven to eight pickups this season in Newton, many residents still have leaves after leaf season is over; therefore, the City will actually pick up bagged leaves. Simply put the leaves in clear plastic bags (not in your green City garbage can) and place the bags beside your garbage can. A yard-waste truck will come after your regular garbage has been collected and pick up the leaves to be recycled.

Clear yard-waste bags can be purchased from City Hall for \$2.00 per 10 bags. Keeping the leaves raked up will ensure that they do not clog up the storm drains and ditches on your streets, which could cause flooding of your property.

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 695-4310.

Police host senior citizen luncheon

Holiday cheer was abundant on December 5, 2006, as the Newton Police Department hosted its annual Senior Citizens Holiday Luncheon. The event, which has been held for approximately 25 years, invites those senior citizens who are on the Police Department's "call list" to the special luncheon, which includes food, gifts, and fellowship.

Through the "call list," the department ensures the safety and well-being of local senior adults who live alone and have no family nearby. The seniors on the list normally call the Police Department each morning to let them know they are okay, but if they do not call, a member of the department calls them. If there is no answer, an officer goes to the residence to check on that person.

"This [luncheon] is a bright and happy tradition in our City. The Police Department is to be commended for this," said The Reverend Fred Thompson, former chaplain of the Newton PD. "It promotes good will and gives a deep satisfaction to our senior members who attend."

Many of the senior citizens and those with disabilities who were in attendance at the luncheon praised the Police Department for their special care.

"I appreciate the Police Department helping me out and calling to check on me. It's nice knowing that they will call and check on you, and that somebody will be there to help if needed," Janet Wilson remarked. "The program is fantastic,



Newton Police Department employee Marlene Carr serves a plate to Anna Casey at the Senior Citizens Holiday Luncheon.

and the police department is fantastic. You know that there's somebody out there who cares about you."

If you, or someone you know, would like to request more information about the Newton Police Department's "call list," call 828-465-7430.

Public Works Dept. offers tips for brush removal

The City of Newton Public Works Department offers several tips to ensure efficient collection of brush, which will help keep the City beautiful.

The City encourages residents to stack their brush in a neat pile to ensure a timely pick-up. By stacking the brush with the cut end toward the road, and in a neat stack, staff can efficiently remove the brush and continue their route to ensure that every household is served in a timely manner.

In order to get the most effective service from the chipper truck, please follow the following guidelines:

1. Place branches near the curb (not on sidewalk or in roadway) with the cut end toward the street in a neat pile.
2. The maximum diameter shall not be more than six (6) inches for each branch.
3. Limbs should not be more than 10-12 feet in length.

4. Please do not place vines, lumber, leaves, or grass clippings with your brush.

During the peak trimming season (September through May), pick-up will be limited to approximately once per week at each residence. Maximum chipping time at any residence is 30 minutes. If requested, additional chipping is charged to the resident at \$25 for each additional half hour. Citizens do not need to call after trees have been trimmed as the chipper truck runs a regular route, and will chip limbs as soon as they are in your neighborhood.

For all other yard waste, i.e. grass clippings, vines, hedge clippings, etc., please bag or box these items and the yard-waste truck will pick them up on your regular trash day. Lumber is also picked up on the yard-waste truck. The chipper truck cannot chip tree stumps with dirt balls on the roots.

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 695-4310.

City Hall News



“Light Up the Town” attracts large crowd

A large crowd enjoyed an evening of holiday festivities in downtown Newton on November 26 during the City's annual “Light Up the Town” celebration.

The event, sponsored by the City of Newton Festival & Events Committee, attracted approximately 1,500 to 2,000 people to The Square. Attendees were

treated to a variety of holiday music from the Newton-Conover High School Band and Chorus, the Newton-Conover Middle School Chorus, the Startown and Balls Creek elementary school choruses, the hand-bell choir from Grace Reformed United Church of Christ, and the community choir.

The celebration began with a grand entrance of participants, including Margaret Sparkman, also known as “The Gourd Lady,” who flipped the

symbolic switch to illuminate the City's holiday lights.

With temperatures in the 50s, attendees enjoyed a special holiday evening, complete with free pictures with Santa Claus, free hayrides, camel rides, food, and of course, lights.

The City of Newton Appearance Commission also coordinated the City's luminary project that night at the three local cemeteries, entitled “A Time to Remember.”



Don't miss this event!

2007 Unity Day Celebration planned February 11

The City of Newton and its Human Relations Council are finalizing plans for the 2007 Unity Day Celebration, which is scheduled for Sunday, February 11, 2007, at 3:00 p.m. at the Newton-Conover Civic & Performance Place, located at 60 West 6th Street.

The theme for the 2007 Unity Day Celebration remains the same – “One Community, One Humanity.” The mission of the celebration is: to bring the communities of the City of Newton together in unity and love; to promote positive multi-cultural relations and harmony throughout the City; to bring everyone together by raising the public’s vision above barriers of color, culture, and creed; and to celebrate the value and respect for diversity through art, dance, music, and food.

Members of the Human Relations Council are working diligently to provide an entertaining, enlightening, and multi-cultural celebration with guest speakers from the Hispanic and Hmong populations; a “Parade of Flags”; a variety of music, dance, and songs; a children’s art contest; American and international foods; and most notably, the Unity Day Award.

NOMINATIONS NEEDED FOR UNITY DAY AWARD

Nominations are now being accepted for the Unity Day Award. The nominee should be a City resident who has demonstrated outstanding service to the Newton community and who has worked to improve relations among cultures and races in the City. Letters of nomination should include specific acts and characteristics of the candidate that qualify the individual for the recognition. The Human Relations Council will review nominations, with the annual award to be presented at the Unity Day Celebration. The deadline for nominations is January 20, 2007. Submit nominations to: City of Newton, c/o Public Information Office, P.O. Box 550, Newton, NC 28658. Past recipients of the Unity Day Award include: The Reverend Fred Thompson, 1996; Mr. Johnny Gabriel, 1997; Mrs. Grace Gaither, 1998; the late Phairlever Pearson, 1999; Mrs. Beth Bock and the late Clarence “Moe” Fox, 2000; Mayor Robert Mullinax, 2005; and Miss Hannah Scott, 2006. No celebration was held from 2001-2004.

INFORMATION SOUGHT FOR “PARADE OF FLAGS”

A new feature at this year’s Unity Day Celebration will be the “Parade of Flags.” The City is currently asking residents of other nationalities to inform staff of their country of origin so that a flag can be displayed at the celebration. Currently, the City has the following flags: United States, Cambodia, Canada, Colombia, Germany, Ghana, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Laos, Mali, Mexico, Nicaragua, North Korea, Peru, and Thailand.

“We want everyone to be included in this special ‘Parade of Flags’ and residents are encouraged to contact me if the City does not already have their country’s flag. We would also like one representative of each country to carry their respective flag during the event,” said Gary Herman, Public Information Director. “This is going to be a very special celebration for everyone involved, and I urge the entire community to make plans now to attend this annual event as we join hands in unity in the City of Newton.”

CHILDREN’S ART CONTEST TO FOCUS ON THEME

Another special feature of the 2007 event is the Unity Day Celebration Children’s Art Contest. Children in grades K-5 at local elementary schools will have the opportunity to draw and color their own interpretation of the celebration’s “One Community, One Humanity” theme. The deadline to submit artwork is February 5. The Human Relations Council will select one winner from each grade. Each winner will receive a \$50 Target gift card and will be recognized at the celebration. Information for the art contest will be distributed to South Newton, Startown, and Thornton elementary schools in the near future.

All residents are encouraged to attend this free celebration on February 11, 2007, with a variety of entertainment, food, and fellowship.

For more information, contact Public Information Director Gary Herman at 695-4266 (gherman@newtonnc.gov) or City Clerk Bootsie Roberts at 695-4265 (broberts@newtonnc.gov).



Code Enforcement Policy

Planning Department lists Code Enforcement Operating Procedure

The City's Planning Department wants to keep the City beautiful and maintain public safety, and has therefore developed the Code Enforcement Operating Procedure.

1. Protecting the general health, safety, and welfare of the City and its citizens is the primary purpose of the regulations and the enforcement process.
2. City personnel will treat all involved with courtesy, professionalism, and respect.
3. Complainants should have at minimum the following information: property owner's name and/or an address of the potential violation; and a brief description of the problem and whether or not it can be viewed from a public street (if it cannot be viewed from the public street, whether or not permission is granted to view from property owned by person making complaint, if applicable).
4. The City will accept anonymous complaints subject to necessary information mentioned in #3 above being provided. If not stated to be anonymous and a name is given, recorded, or remembered, the information becomes a public record and will be disclosed upon request. The exception to this is if statements are made or City personnel reasonably believes that the disclosure of such information may lead to the bodily harm of another person.
5. When entering onto a property for a code enforcement investigation, City personnel will introduce themselves and show identification.
6. City personnel will ask permission to take pictures when entering onto a property with potential code violations. If permission is denied, an administrative search warrant may be secured to gain permission for entry and pictures to be taken. Pictures will only be used for purposes related to the case.
7. City personnel may take pictures from public property and/or other locations not on the subject property without property owner's/tenant's permission.
8. In most cases, a Notice of Violation will be sent certified mail to the property owner as identified by Catawba County tax records when a violation of code is found to exist. If there is no response back within 45 days, the code matter will in most cases be forwarded to City Council for them to authorize the City Attorney to take legal action. The City Attorney will normally then send a letter stating this. If no response is received, the City Attorney will evaluate the case and decide if/when it is in the public interest to pursue court action.
9. Compliance with City code, not fines or court action, is the goal of the enforcement program. Each situation is unique and will be handled accordingly. Staff will attempt to work with those making an effort to comply with code while balancing the public interest. As a last resort, fines and legal action will be pursued when warranted to obtain compliance.

For more information about this policy, or to report a possible code violation, contact Richard Crump in the Planning Department at 828-695-4277.

City of Newton water earns AWOP award

For the third consecutive year, the City of Newton's Water Treatment Plant has earned a significant merit for its superior water quality.

The City recently received the 2005 Area Wide Optimization Program (AWOP) award for operations excellence from the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources' Water Supply Branch. The AWOP program recognizes water treatment plants that consistently

meet goals that demonstrate maximum effectiveness of the overall treatment process. Newton is one of only 11 water plants in North Carolina to earn the award, out of a possible 160 treatment plants across the state.

"This recognition is the result of the diligent work of all of our operators," said Tim Abernethy, WTP Superintendent. "Our water exceeds any quality standards and is the safest drinking water available in this area."

City Hall News



City of Newton

Report a Problem

Need to RAP with the City of Newton?

Welcome to the City of Newton 'RAP' Sheet. Here, you can Report A Problem, or 'RAP', to the correct city department. Once the form is completed, a problem report will be sent to the correct department that can best assist you in resolving the matter. The only personal information needed from you is your name and a valid e-mail address. So go on, RAP to us...

The City of Newton RAP form is intended for use by its Citizens as a means of reporting issues requiring the attention of City personnel. Please realize that we will try to remedy those situations in a timely matter.

- ☐ Abandoned / junk vehicle in city street
- ☐ Abandoned / junk vehicle on private property
- ☐ Animal dead in the road
- ☐ Animal, vicious or dangerous
- ☐ Blocked street drain
- ☐ Chemical discharge
- ☐ Damaged curb or sidewalk
- ☐ Dogs barking
- ☐ Hazardous parking
- ☐ Litter
- ☐ Loose / protruding manhole cover
- ☐ Noise nuisance
- ☐ Overhanging trees / shrubs
- ☐ Pothole
- ☐ Road striping
- ☐ Traffic / road signs or signals
- ☐ Sanitary sewer leaking / blockage
- ☐ Street / security lights
- ☐ Water leaking on roadway
- ☐ Weeds / overgrown vegetation
- ☐ OTHER

Please give a brief description of the problem:

Do you have a problem? RAP to us

When a citizen has a problem, the City of Newton is there to help resolve the issue at the click of a mouse. To demonstrate the City's desire to provide prompt, efficient customer service, residents can now report their problems and concerns via the City's website at www.newtonnc.gov/rap/default.asp.

The "Report A Problem" (RAP) webpage provides a quick, easy way for citizens to notify the City about problems that require the attention of City personnel. Examples of problems that can be reported include:

abandoned vehicles, animals, blocked street drains, damaged curbs or sidewalks, barking dogs, litter, noise, potholes, water and sewer leaks, street lights, overgrown vegetation, and more.

Once a citizen fills out a RAP sheet online, the information is transmitted to the Public Works Department, which then determines the correct course of action to efficiently handle the problem.

For more information, contact the City of Newton Public Works Department at 828-695-4310.

City accepting petitions for paving, curb and gutter, water and sewer

The City of Newton will accept petitions for paving unpaved streets, curb and gutter work, and water and sewer extensions for Fiscal Year 2006-2007 from January 2, 2007 to March 15, 2007. If you are interested in these improvements on your street, please contact the City Clerk's office at 828-695-4265.

City Hall News

Garden Club dedicates tree to firefighters

The Shorts and Jeans Garden Club, which has provided civic beautification for citizens and visitors to Newton for more than half a century, recently added another project as they dedicated a crepe myrtle tree to the City's firefighters. The tree was planted in the landscaping scheme at Southside Cemetery.

According to Joyce Little Fidler, club president, the local members adopted a project, entitled "Patriotic Trees," promoted by the National Garden Club. Community gardeners throughout America are encouraged to plant trees in public spaces such as parks, cemeteries, city hall grounds, fire and police stations, and more.

The tree in Newton's newest public cemetery honors both the long-time corps of volunteer firemen and the professional firefighters who work at the City's three fire stations. Several local firemen attended a brief ceremony when the tree was planted, even bringing a fire truck to the occasion. A bronze plaque at the tree indicates the club's sponsorship in honor of local firefighters.

A certificate of appreciation was given to the club, signed by Mayor Robert A. Mullinax and Lora Dellinger, chairperson of the Newton Appearance Commission.

The Shorts and Jeans Club, organized in 1951, is approaching its 60th anniversary and is a long-time member of the Newton Garden Club Council. The current president of the Garden Club of North Carolina, Jackie Holder Dellinger, is a member and former club and garden council president.

Other current civic beautification projects of the club include four cement boxes at the Catawba County Museum of History (former county courthouse) planted with flowers in patriotic colors, and planters around Courthouse Square planted with multi-seasonal plants. In a pocket garden on East 1st Street beside Walker's Pharmacy on The Square, the club has floral plantings to complement a bench placed by the City.

In previous years, the club has planted both dogwood trees and crepe myrtles in the downtown area, in addition to bulbs and annuals at City Hall.



The Newton Shorts and Jeans Club dedicated a tree at Southside Cemetery to the City's firefighters. Pictured are Jackie Dellinger, Alan Fox, Mary Yoder, Jackie Lail, Vera Arndt, Jerry Peeler, Lori Barbour, Jimmy Martin, and Joyce Fidler.

Recreation Dept. now accepting athletic registrations

The Newton Parks & Recreation Department has announced its registration schedule for youth sports.

- January 2 to February 2 -- youth baseball/softball, youth volleyball, and youth spring soccer sign-ups for residents and returning players.
- February 5 to March 2 -- youth baseball/softball and

youth spring soccer sign-ups for non-residents and late registrants.

- February 5 to February 16 -- youth volleyball sign-up for non-residents and late registrants.

For more information, contact the Newton Recreation Center at 828-695-4317.

City of Newton Holiday Schedule

The City of Newton will observe Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, January 15, 2007, and the Easter holiday on April 6. Sanitation collection will operate on a regular schedule.

For more information, contact the Newton Public Works Department at 828-695-4310.

For emergencies, contact the Newton Police Department at 828-465-7430.

City earns statewide honors

Planning Department receives 2006 Outstanding Planning Award

The City of Newton received one of the state's most prestigious planning awards on Friday, October 6, in Hickory. The North Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association (NCAPA) presented a 2006 Marvin Collins Outstanding Planning Award to the City at the NCAPA Planning Conference Awards Luncheon at the Hickory Metro Convention Center.

The City's Planning Department submitted a nomination for its "Eastside Area Plan," which serves as a guide for anticipated growth in east Newton as a result of the almost-complete Newton-Conover Loop, also known as the Highway 16 Bypass.

City Planning Director Glenn Pattishall, who is also currently serving as Interim City Manager, believes this award displays the dedication and vision of the citizens who participated in the process as well as the Mayor and City Council, Planning Commission, and City staff.

"I would like to recognize the efforts of the City planning staff who prepared the plan, specifically Alex Fulbright, Richard Crump, and Debbie Short. We, as staff, are privileged to have worked with the dedicated citizens who participated



Karen Smith of the N.C. Department of Commerce presents the 2006 Marvin Collins Outstanding Planning Award to Glenn Pattishall and Alex Fulbright.

in development of the plan, a very knowledgeable and involved Planning Commission, and most importantly, a forward-thinking and supportive Mayor and City Council," Pattishall stated. "Being associated with an award-winning plan has always been a personal goal, and to be a part of this achievement of the City is especially gratifying."

Water Treatment Plant Superintendent named Operator of Year

City of Newton Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Tim Abernethy was selected as the 2006 A-Surface Operator of the Year by the North Carolina Waterworks Operators Association. The NCWOA annually recognizes one "A" certified water treatment plant operator in North Carolina who has demonstrated outstanding ability, devotion and technical expertise in the operation of a water treatment plant. The "A" certification level is the highest level of certification for water plant operations in North Carolina.

"I am extremely honored to be selected for this statewide award," Abernethy stated. "I appreciate my many co-workers and friends who assist

me everyday. I love working for the City of Newton, and I will always do my best to ensure safe, quality drinking water for all of our customers."

Abernethy began his career with the City of Newton in 1978, advancing to the level of superintendent. Abernethy's supervisor, Martin Wilson, who serves as the city's Public Works & Utilities Director, nominated him for the award, praising his dedication to the city's water system.

"Tim is continually coming up with new ideas and improvements for the water treatment plant and related facilities," Wilson stated. "Tim has proven to be an excellent leader. I can think of no one more deserving of the recognition of Operator of the Year."



Newton Mayor Robert A. Mullinax congratulates WTP Superintendent Tim Abernethy for being named the 2006 NCWOA Operator of the Year.

City Meetings

City Council	1st Tuesday and 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., City Hall
Appearance Commission	3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Newton Train Depot
Board of Adjustment	No regular schedule
Downtown Newton Development Association	2nd Monday, 4:00 p.m., 1924 Courthouse
Human Relations Council	January 22, 6:30 p.m., City Hall
Festival and Events Committee	2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m., Newton Train Depot
Off-Street Parking Committee	No regular schedule
Parks & Recreation Commission	2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Newton Recreation Center
Planning Commission	4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., City Hall
Subdivision Review Board	2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m., City Hall
Youth Council	2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m., Southside Community Building

City Officials

MAYOR

Robert A. Mullinax

CITY MANAGER

Glenn J. Pattishall
(interim)

CITY ATTORNEY

Larry Pitts

CITY COUNCIL

Roy Johnson - Mayor Pro Tem

Wayne Dellinger

Tom Dixon

Al Gaither

Tom Rowe

Anne Stedman

NEWSLETTER REPORTERS

- Administration
Glenn Pattishall, Interim City Manager
Bootsie Roberts, City Clerk
Gary Herman, Public Information Director
- Finance Jim Baker, Director
- Fire Kevin Yoder, Chief
- Human Resources ... Teresa Laffon, Director
- Parks & Recreation ... Sandra Waters, Director
- Police David Dial, Chief
- Planning Alex Fulbright, Assistant Director
- Public Works Marty Wilson, Director

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FROM CITY VOLUNTEERS

The City of Newton offers its appreciation to a number of volunteers who helped label and distribute the City Newsletter. They are: Ginger Clark, Essie Reinhardt, Ola Mae Rice, Hannah Scott, Aileen Simmons, Lois White, Faye Willis, Nellie Martin, and Ruth Wilson. Honorary Volunteer: Harper Cilley.

ABOUT YOUR NEWSLETTER...

The Newton Newsletter is published quarterly, in January, April, July, and October. If you would like to submit community information for the upcoming issue, please contact Gary Herman - Newton Public Information Director at 695-4266, or e-mail to gherman@newtonnc.gov.